THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 17th March 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Declaration of slums in the City.

* 1401 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the basis on which places are declared as slums in the City; and

(*b*) whether Pallakmani, Tiruvallupuram and Gurunpuram are treated by Government as slums?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) Particular areas in the City will be declared as slums on the basis and according to the procedure laid down in sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 3 of the Madras Slum Improvement (Acquisition of Land) Act, 1954.

" (*b*) Gurunpuram is not situated within City limits. Insanitary conditions are reported to exist in Pallakmani and Tiruvallupuram. Government have not so far declared these two areas as slums."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY:—" The Government promised to construct quarters for slum-dwellers and provide them with water and other facilities while this Act was being enacted. May I know whether the Government have fulfilled that promise at least in respect of the slums belonging to the Corporation? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Corporation has been doing slum improvement work in the slums on their lands and on some of the Government lands."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR:—" In view of the recent statement connected with the Constitution (Amendment) Bill by the Prime Minister of India that retention or allowing of these slums is a crime and that even the tolerance of them by the State Governments is a crime, would the Government speed up the reclamation of these slums and abolish them quickly? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Yes, Sir. Proposals have been called for from the Corporation regarding slum improvement."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY:—" May I know whether the scheme will be extended to other municipal towns? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" There has been no such proposal so far, Sir."